

# The Testimony of some Christians,

In and about *Lewes* in the County of *SUSSEX*,

*Held forth to the Nations, and seriously proposing unto them, the neereſt and ſureſt way of Settlement, after ſo long and ſore Shakings; and the beſt means of Reconciling the Civil Differences amongſt our ſelves, in this Commonwealth, is as follows.*

1. **T**hat we humbly conceive, that the end of God, in the continued ſucceſſions of ſhakings and overturnings that have been made by his Almighty hand amongſt us, is (a) to remove the things that may be ſhaken, as things that are made by man, that thoſe things that cannot be ſhaken may remain, (i.e.) Divine institutions; and to ſet up the Kingdom that cannot be moved, even the Kingdom of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt amongſt us, (b) to bring this deſire of Nations, moſt to be deſired, how much ſoever deſpised by the too much admirers of Humane Policy, and (c) wiſe Diſputers of this World.
2. That God intends not onely to ſet up Jeſus Chriſt (d) on his holy hill of *Zion*, as (e) King of Saints, but (f) as King of Nations, (g) and that the Kingdoms of this World, ſhall become the Kingdoms of our Lord and of his Chriſt, and he ſhall reign for ever and ever.
3. That this Kingdom of Chriſt, is ſet up amongſt the Nations, when (h) his will is done on earth, as it is in heaven, (i) where Angels which excel in ſtrength, do his Commandments, hearkning unto the Voice of his Word.
4. That the Voice of Chriſts Word to us, is the voice of the Holy Scriptures; thither he ſends us to know his mind, ſaying, (k) To the Law and to the Teſtimony, if they ſpeak not according to this Word, it is becauſe there is no morning in them.
5. That therefore there is Civil Government and Laws, delivered in the holy Scriptures, whereby to govern the Nations, according to the will of God: (l) the Scriptures alſo being ſufficient to furniſh the man of God throughly, to teach all good works; from the number of which, none will (we ſuppoſe) exclude Civil Government.
6. That the Scripture Civil Government, is that which was given to Gods antient people *Israel*, when they began to be a Commonwealth, which began to be preſcribed by (m) *Jethro* to *Moses* (unworthily therefore we think by any to be counted Moſaick) and ſubmitted to the Commandment of the Lord (without which we ſuppoſe none will think *Moses* ſet it up) and afterwards was perfected, by the institution of the (n) ſeventy Elders, by Gods immediate appointment, and both upon grounds common to all people and times, the eaſier and ſpeedier adminiſtration of Juſtice, and the better bearing the burden of Government.
7. That the Laws the Scripture gives to Rule the Nations by, are the Laws which God gave to his antient people, (ſetting aſide ſuch as belonged unto them as ſuch a people,) that is, the Moral Law, and natural deductions therefrom, agreeable to the Scriptures; together with the penalties, whereby they were fenced againſt tranſgreſſors, that cannot but be approved of very Heathens (o) for wiſdom and righteouſneſs; and is commended unto the people of God (p) for its moſt perfect righteouſneſs.
8. We therefore do farther humbly teſtifie, that the neereſt and ſureſt way of ſetling this ſhaken Commonwealth, and bearing up the pillars of our diſſolved earth, is to proclaim Chriſt (q) our Judge, Law-giver and King, and that accordingly no Offices or Officers be ſet up in the Commonwealth, but by his appointment, in the aforeſaid Platform of Government, given once unto the Commonwealth of *Israel*, recorded in the holy Scriptures for our imitation; and the Laws of the holy Scriptures be declared the Laws of the Commonwealth; that theſe may be our *Magna Charta*, and *Statute-Book*: for we humbly conceive that our Rulers have hitherto (r) periſhed from the way, becauſe they would not kiſs the Son; and that they could never bind up our breaches, becauſe they would not bind them up with Chriſts bands, but have broken them, and caſt his Cords away. Neither can we expect (s) that God ſhould ſend proſperity, till the Stone that the Builders have reſuſed, be made by mens acceptance, as well as Gods Ordinance, the head of the Corner: we cannot expect Gods bleſſing upon our Government, (t) except it be his own; nor (u) ſucceſs in any ruling, but by his Laws; eſpecially in ſuch a time of light, and clear teſtimony to the truth.
9. That therefore, although we ſhall ſubmit to Gods providence, that (v) rules in the Kingdoms of men, and gives them to whomſoever he pleaſe, and be (z) ordered under the powers that are, according to his Commandment, and ſhew our ſelves peaceable in the Land, and ſerviceable to our Country, after the example of the Saints that have gone before us; yet we ſhall never approve of any other Supreme Law-Giver, but Chriſt, giving Laws in his Word; nor of any other Government and Laws of the Commonwealth, then what he hath delivered to us therein.
10. That whereas ſome have gone before us, in bearing this teſtimony unto the Law-giving power of God, and Jeſus Chriſt, we profeſs our concurrence with them therein, under the common name of Chriſtians; deſiring that all names of diſtinction being laid aſide, all teſtimony may be given under that common name; and exhorting all that name the name of the Lord to depart from iniquity, we ſubſcribe our names.

Gualter Poſtlethwaite  
Henry Godman  
Steven Botting  
Richard Ruſſel  
Tho. Fiſſenden  
John Savage

Rich. Savage  
John Henly  
George Goldham  
Thomas Miles  
Nat. Jones  
John Stoneſtreet

John Lopdell  
Nicholas Curle  
John Crouch  
Tho. Crouch  
Richard Burton  
Chriſtopher Torkhurſt

Richard Button  
Richard Burdett  
Omrey Page  
Robert Swan  
Jeremiah Tamkin  
Abraham Nicholas

L O N D O N,

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